

October 28, 2000

TRIBUTE TO SHAFEIK MOHAMMED

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Shafeik Mohammed, an outstanding individual who has devoted his life to his family and to serving the community. Mr. Mohammed retired from Phipps Community Development Corporation on September 1 and moved to California to be with his children.

Originally from Trinidad, Mr. Mohammed and his wife first came to this country in 1971 to seek medical help for their daughter who had been seriously injured in a car accident. The early years were rough: four young children, a foreign country, and few marketable skills. The whole family enrolled in school, worked, studied, and saved. His wife became a registered nurse and Shafeik, while working full time, made the Dean's List at Medgar Evers College. Their daughter recovered, went to law school, and is now Assistant District Attorney in Los Angeles.

Mr. Mohammed has worked in impoverished communities in both Brooklyn and the Bronx helping residents learn skills, gain employment, and develop careers. For more than thirty years he has worked with a passion and commitment that has inspired thousands of individuals and been instrumental in lifting whole families out of poverty.

In 1996, after fifteen months of retirement, he came to work for Phipps Community Development Corporation in my congressional district and has been the guiding light behind our educational and employment services ever since. Phipps CDC is the human services affiliate of Phipps Houses, New York City's oldest and largest not-for-profit developer of affordable housing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing a happy retirement to Mr. Shafeik Mohammed.

HONORING MEREDITH J.
KHACHIGIAN

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to one of California's most remarkable women, Meredith J. Khachigian.

Ms. Khachigian has chaired the Board of Regents of the University of California (UC) for three terms. In this position she manages the leading public research university in the nation. With 97,000 employees and 167,000 students, the UC system includes nine university sites, a graduate health science campus in San Francisco, three law schools, five medical schools and five hospitals. The Regents oversee the University's \$43 billion annual budget and also manage the UC Retirement System, the largest in the United States, and a General Endowment Pool of \$5.3 billion.

Ms. Khachigian is a consultant in community and public affairs and is the former Executive

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Director of Vital Link-Orange, a program that matches high school students' educational backgrounds with the needs of future employers. She is currently serving as a member of the Governor's School-To-Work Advisory Council for the State of California. Additionally, she represents the University on business matters through her involvement with the Orange County Business Council's workforce preparation initiative.

She has served as President of Human Options, a shelter for battered women, and is the co-chair of the program's 20th anniversary celebration, which in 2001 will commemorate two decades of dedicated service in the field of domestic violence.

Ms. Khachigian has combined a career in public service with her dedication to the needs of others and is well-known in the United States for her achievements. She is recognized for her expertise and is regularly asked to speak on prestigious news programs. She has served as an advocate for the University in Washington, DC, meeting with legislators on issues important to the hospitals and medical schools as well as the people of California.

I ask my colleagues to please join with me in recognizing an extraordinary woman. Meredith J. Khachigian.

TRIBUTE TO LISE THIBAUT, NEW-
EST MEMBER OF THE WORLD
COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of my colleagues the selection of Ms. Lise Thibault as a member of the World Committee on Disability. Ms. Thibault brings to her new position some thirty years of leadership in the disability movement in her native country, Canada.

When Lise Thibault was a teenager, she suffered a tobogganing accident that left her with a permanent disability; however, having to use a wheelchair has never slowed her down. She went on to become a wife, the mother of two, the grandmother of five, and a prominent public figure.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Thibault taught adult education and worked for the Canadian Broadcasting Company as a host and a researcher for programs about family and community issues. She was appointed to the Quebec Ministry of Education in 1977, became director-general of the Quebec Office for Persons with Disabilities, and Vice President of the Quebec Occupational Health and Safety Board (1987-1993). Throughout her life, she has been an active leader in the disabled community, serving as president and director general of the Quebec Bureau for the Handicapped and board member of the Canadian Red Cross.

In 1994, Lise Thibault was given the YWCA's "Woman of Merit" award for her involvement in the community. That same year, she was named "Personality of the Year" by Chatelaine Magazine. On January 30, 1997, she was sworn in as Quebec's 27th Lieuten-

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ant Governor by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Ms. Thibault is the first woman and the first person with a disability to hold this office.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in welcoming this extraordinary warm-hearted woman who has dedicated herself to the well-being of others, Ms. Lise Thibault, as a member of the World Committee on Disability.

IN HONOR OF JOHN "JJ" JOHNSON,
RECIPIENT OF THE NEW JERSEY
AFL-CIO LABOR AWARD 2000

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NORTH JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John "JJ" Johnson, recipient of the New Jersey AFL-CIO Labor Award for the year 2000. The AFL-CIO Labor Award is given to extremely dedicated individuals, who have made enduring contributions to the labor movement.

John Johnson became active in the labor movement in 1960, when he organized the Peter Pan factory in East Newark, New Jersey. In 1975, Mr. Johnson co-founded Local 617 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), which elected him executive vice president, a position he held for 23 years.

Today, Local 617 represents approximately 3,500 employees, making it the largest public employees local of the Service Employees International Union in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Johnson's hard work and dedication have been a major factor in the growth and success of Local 617.

In 1996, Mr. Johnson was elected to the Executive Board of the Services Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC, becoming the Union's first African American official to serve in that capacity. The Service Employees Union is the third largest union in the AFL-CIO, with a membership of 1.3 million.

In addition, Mr. Johnson serves as a board member of the Public Sector Division and the Political Committee of SEIU; was elected president of the SEIU New Jersey State Council; was appointed to the board of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO, CLC; and was elected president of Local 617.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John "JJ" Johnson for his enduring contributions to the labor movement.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOHN KASICH ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow Ohioan and good friend, JOHN KASICH. I used to serve with my